

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

EA-06 FRB-03 INR-07 IO-10 NEA-09 NSAE-00 OPIC-03

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NSC-05 OES-03 NSF-01 /097 W  
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R 191525Z APR 75

FM USMISSION OECD PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASH DC 6643

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 OECD PARIS 10012

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN, OECD, JA

SUBJECT: JAPANESE PROPOSAL FOR OECD RESEARCH PROJECT  
ON ADVANCED INDUSTRIAL SOCIETIES

REF: A) USOECD 7270; B) USOECD 23965; 23970 (OCT. 74);  
C) STATE 80230

1. SUMMARY: AT GOJ REQUEST, SECRETARIAT IS NOW WORKING ON DOCUMENT ELABORATING PROPOSED LONG-TERM RESEARCH PROJECT, AND SECGEN PLANS TO BRING PROPOSAL FORMALLY TO ATTENTION OF OECD MEMBER COUNTRIES AT APRIL 29 COUNCIL MEETING. NO DEFINITE DECISIONS HAVE BEEN MADE ON POSSIBLE MEETING TO DISCUSS PROJECT. IN OUR VIEW, MOST INTERESTING ASPECT OF PROJECT IS ITS EMPHASIS ON PRODUCING REALISTIC LONGER-RANGE POLICY OPTIONS INVOLVING HIGH-LEVEL POLICY MAKERS IN THE PROCESS THROUGH PERIODIC DISCUSSIONS. IN ORDER TO SEE THAT IT IS LAUNCHED IN SUCH A WAY AS TO ENSURE INTEREST OF HIGH-LEVEL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE IMPORTANT

FOR SECRETARY TO RESPOND POSITIVELY TO JAPANESE PROPOSAL IN HIS STATEMENT AT OECD MINISTERIAL.  
END SUMMARY.

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2. JAPANESE AMB HIRAHARA HAS FORMALLY NOTIFIED SECRETARY GENERAL OF GOJ'S INTEREST IN LONG-TERM RESEARCH PROJECT AND WILLINGNESS TO COMMIT SUBSTANTIAL FUNDS (ONE MILLION DOLLARS OVER 3-YEAR PERIOD) TOWARD ITS IMPLEMENTATION. HIRAHARA REQUESTED THAT SECRETARIAT PREPARE DOCUMENTS ELABORATING PROJECT, BRING IT INFORMALLY TO ATTENTION OF OTHER MEMBER GOVERNMENTS, AND CALL MEETING, IF APPROPRIATE, TO CONSIDER BEST MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION. IN HIS PRESENTATION TO SECGEN, HIRAHARA NOTED EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER YOSHINO HAD RECEIVED FROM SENIOR DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS.

3. SECGEN NOW PLANS TO RAISE JAPANESE PROPOSAL AT COUNCIL MEETING ON APRIL 2 AND TO CIRCULATE IN ADVANCE INFORMATION NOTE PROPOSING SCOPE AND MODALITIES OF PROJECT AND INVITING ALL INTERESTED GOVERNMENTS TO PARTICIPATE ON BASIS OF FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS. SECRETARIAT NOTE WILL INDICATE CLEARLY THAT PROJECT WAS PROPOSED BY JAPANESE. IT WILL DRAW HEAVILY ON PAPER WHICH YOSHINO GAVE TO PLANNING DIRECTOR LORD BUT SET OUT MORE CLEARLY THE CLOSE LINKAGE BETWEEN RESEARCH PROGRAM AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS. SECRETARIAT AND JAPANESE HOPE TO STRUCTURE PROJECT IN SUCH A WAY THAT SENIOR GOVERNMENT POLICY-MAKERS WILL COME TOGETHER IN INFORMAL MEETINGS TO DISCUSS POLICY OPTIONS PRESENTED. WE WILL TRANSMIT NOTE TO DEPARTMENT AS SOON AS IT IS AVAILABLE.

4. SECRETARIAT IS CONSIDERING DESIRABILITY OF HOLDING MEETING OF EXPERTS AT SECGEN'S INVITATION TO EXAMINE FEASIBILITY OF PROPOSED PROJECT AND TO DISCUSS ITS SCOPE AND BEST MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION. ACCORDING TO CURRENT SECRETARIAT THINKING, EXPERTS MEETING WOULD BE HELD IN EARLY JUNE FOLLOWING MAY 28-29 OECD MINISTERIAL MEETING. ECONOMIST SABURO OKITA, LONG-TIME ADVISER TO TOP JAPANESE LEADERSHIP, IS EXPECTED TO BE THE JAPANESE PARTICIPANT IN POSSIBLE EXPERTS MEETING AND GENERALLY TO COORDINATE SUBSTANTIVE JAPANESE CONTRIBUTION TO PROJECT.

5. ACCORDING TO SECRETARIAT, FRANCE, SWEDEN AND NETHERLANDS HAVE EXPRESSED STRONG INTEREST IN PROJECT IN ADDITION TO JAPAN AND US. U K AND CANADA HAVE ALSO EXPRESSED SOME INTEREST; GERMANY HAS BEEN NEGATIVE.

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TION TO JAPAN AND US. U K AND CANADA HAVE ALSO EXPRESSED SOME INTEREST; GERMANY HAS BEEN NEGATIVE.

6. WITH REGARD TO STUDY ON "FUTURE INDUSTRIAL STRUCTURES" PROPOSED BY JAPANESE TO INDUSTRY COMMITTEE, SECRETARIAT HAS NOT YET BEGUN REWRITING ORIGINAL DOCUMENTATION SUBMITTED BY JAPANESE. PROPOSAL WILL NEXT BE CONSIDERED BY EXPERTS GROUP ON JUNE 17 PRIOR TO JUNE 18-20

INDUSTRY COMMITTEE MEETING. SECRETARIAT WILL REWRITE PROPOSAL BEFORE INDUSTRY COMMITTEE EXPERTS MEET BUT HAS NOT BEGUN TO CONSIDER WHAT SPECIFIC CHANGES MAY BE MADE.

7. ON RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PROPOSED RESEARCH PROJECT AND INDUSTRY COMMITTEE PROPOSAL, JAPANESE HERE HAVE TOLD US THAT THE TWO PROPOSALS WERE ENTIRELY SEPARATE IN

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ORIGIN. INDUSTRY COMMITTEE PROPOSAL EMANATED FROM MITI AND WAS CONCEIVED AS A FAR MORE NARROW STUDY FOCUSED ON INDUSTRIAL STRUCTURES. JAPANESE DELEGATE TO MARCH INDUSTRY COMMITTEE MEETING (TANABE) TOLD US THAT MITI WAS UNAWARE OF LONG-TERM RESEARCH PROPOSAL WHEN IT LAUNCHED ITS OWN PROPOSAL, WHICH WAS DESIGNED IN PART AS AN ATTEMPT TO "REVITALIZE" INDUSTRY COMMITTEE. JAPANESE DELEGATION EXPECTS THAT INDUSTRY COMMITTEE PROPOSAL WILL BE SOMEHOW MELDED INTO THE LONG-TERM RESEARCH PROJECT WHEN IT GETS OFF THE GROUND, BUT HOPES THAT WORK WILL CONTINUE IN THE INDUSTRY COMMITTEE (PRESUMABLY UNDER MITI CONTROL).

8. MISSION COMMENT: IN OUR VIEW, THE MOST INTERESTING FACET OF LONG-TERM RESEARCH PROPOSAL -- AND THE ONE WHICH DISTINGUISHES IT FROM OTHER EXERCISES IN FUTUROLOGY -- IS ITS EMPHASIS ON PRODUCING REALISTIC LONGER-RANGE POLICY OPTIONS BY INVOLVING THE POLICY-MAKERS THEMSELVES IN THE PROCESS. IN THIS SENSE, PROJECT WILL ONLY SUCCEED IF IT RECEIVES ATTENTION AT HIGHEST LEVEL. WE UNDERSTAND THAT JAPANESE REPRESENTATIVE MAY SEEK SUPPORT FOR PROJECT IN HIS INTERVENTION AT OECD MINISTERIAL. IN  
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ORDER TO ENSURE THAT PROJECT IS LAUNCHED IN SUCH A WAY AS TO ATTRACT THE CONTEMPLATED LEVEL OF INVOLVEMENT BY HIGH-LEVEL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS (AND, AT THE SAME TIME, TO GIVE CREDIT TO JAPANESE FOR AN IMAGINATIVE INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVE), BELIEVE IT WOULD BE HIGHLY USEFUL FOR SECRETARY TO MENTION THE JAPANESE PROPOSAL IN HIS STATEMENT AT THE MINISTERIAL AS A PROMISING INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE APPROACH TO THE PROBLEMS FACING INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES IN THE LONGER RUN, PLEDGING FULL US SUPPORT AND URGING SUPPORT OF OTHER OECD COUNTRIES.  
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